

One Book, One San Diego

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is One Book, One San Diego?

In its 7th year, One Book, One San Diego is a community reading program. It is managed by KPBS in partnership with the San Diego Public Library. The purpose of the program is to bring together our community and encourage residents to join together in the shared experience of reading and discussing the same book. The program also encourages participation in related events, discussions of the ideas raised in the featured books, and examination of how these ideas connect with our daily lives and local communities.

2. How do you choose the book?

The process for selecting a One Book title is designed for maximum community participation. San Diego County residents are invited to nominate books through online and paper submissions.

The 2013 nomination submission period lasts the entire month of March. The [nomination form](#) is available on KPBS' website. Paper forms are available at all San Diego Public Library locations.

The One Book Advisory Committee will review all book nominations and select a title they believe will best meets the One Book criteria and the goals of the program.

3. Who is on the Advisory Committee?

The One Book Advisory Committee is comprised of representatives of KPBS and the San Diego Public Library, college and high school educators, librarians, and various community representatives.

4. What are the book criteria?

- Story (fiction or nonfiction) is of high literary quality, is significant and compelling, and has a strong narrative and well-developed characters.
- Themes resonate with local and/or global communities.
- Inspires discussion, conversations, and action.
- Available in paperback and hardcover.
- Author is alive (and affordable).
- The book has professional reviews (is currently in print and available in large quantities).
- Suitable for high school study and up (and for people of all backgrounds).

5. What is a “professional review?”

A professional review of a book is one that appears in a reputable publishing magazine, a major national newspaper, or a literary journal. Examples of professional reviews are found in: the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Publisher's Weekly, Library Journal, Kirkus, Booklist, the Bloomsbury Review, the Gettysburg Review, the Iowa Review, etc. (Note that this list is not exhaustive, but is meant to provide examples of professional reviews.)

6. When will we know what the next book is?

The 2013 One Book selection will be announced in May.

7. When are the author events?

The author of the featured book will visit San Diego to participate in One Book, One San Diego events during the fall of 2013. Additional events related to the featured book will also take place in the fall of 2013.

If you have further questions about One Book, One San Diego, contact Marc Chery at San Diego Public Library (619) 236-5817, or Clare Pister, KPBS Education & Literacy Coordinator at cpister@kpbs.org.